

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 RSC-01 CIAE-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3684

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 0789

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, PE

SUBJECT: ALLEGED GOP CONCERN OVER CIA OPERATIONS MAY HAVE CAUSED
DELAY IN REQUEST FOR AID LOAN

1. ROBERTO KEIL ROJAS, CIVE MINISTER OF ECONOMY AND FINANCE, ASSERTED TO EMBASSY OFFICERS JANUARY 21 THAT THE GOP HAD HELD UP SIGNING AN OFFICIAL REQUEST FOR THE AGRICULTURAL CENTRALES LOAN BECAUSE OF CONCERN OVER A POSSIBLE CIA RELATION TO THE AID PROGRAM IN PERU. KEIL SAID THAT THE OFFICIAL REQUEST FOR THE LOAN WOULD BE SIGNED SHORTLY BY THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AFTER CONSULTATION WITH THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, THEREBY IMPLYING THAT THE GOP IS NOW ASSURED THAT NO CONNECTION EXISTS BETWEEN AID AND THE CIA. KEIL SAID THAT HE AGREED PERSONALLY THAT SUCH CONCERNS ARE NOT WELL FOUNDED, BUT EMPHASIZED THAT THERE HAD BEEN CONSIDERABLE DOUBT IN THE HIGHER CIRCLES OF THE GOP ABOUT THE WISDOM OF REQUESTING A LOAN AT THIS TIME, GIVEN THE CHARGES ABOUT CIA ACTIVITIES. HE DID NOT MAKE SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO ANY PARTICULAR CHARGES.

2. ON JANUARY 22, A MIDDLE-LEVEL OFFICER OF THE INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION SECTION OF THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS TELEPHONED USAID TO REQUEST THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:
(A) LISTING OF ACTIVE TECHNICAL AND FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROJECTS,
(B) PRESENT STATUS OF MAJOR PROJECTS, (C) THE FEASIBILITY OF AID'S UNDERTAKING NEW PROJECTS, AND (D) SOURCES OF AID'S ASSISTANCE. THIS INFORMATION WAS PROVIDED TO MFA JANUARY 24.

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3. COMMENT: THE RELATION, IF ANY, BETWEEN PARAGRAPH ONE AND TWO IS NOT CLEAR. ALTHOUGH THE REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON THE AID PROGRAM ALLEGEDLY WAS MERELY TO UP-DATE MFA RECORDS AND FOR THE PURPOSE OF BRIEFING AMBASSADOR DE LA PUENTE, IT SUGGESTS THAT THE MFA ON ITS OWN INITIATIVE OR UPON REQUEST IS EVALUATING AID'S PRESENCE IN PERU. FROM SELECTIVE INQUIRIES IT DOES NOT APPEAR OTHER DONORS WERE REQUESTED TO PROVIDE SIMILAR INFORMATION. ON THE OTHER HAND, DURING THE TIME THE REQUEST LETTER FOR THE CENTRALES LOAN WAS BEING HELD, THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS DID AUTHORIZE SIGNATURE OF THE AMENDMENT TO THE TARAPOTO LOAN AGREEMENT AND THE MFA SIGNED THE PL-480 SCHOOL LUNCH TRANSFER AUTHORIZATIO, MFA HAS ALSO SIGNED IN RECENT DAYS THE PROAG FOR THE NEW BILINGUAL EDUCATION PROJECT AND A PROAG PROVIDING FURTHER ASSISTANCE TO INPROMI'S PROGRAM OF STUDIES AND SERVICES. MISSION IS CONTINUING TO MAKE DISCREET INQUIRIES AS TO REASONS FOR (1) GP FAILURE TO DATE TO SUBMIT AGRICULTURAL CENTRALES LOAN REQUESTS, AND (2) MFA REQUEST FOR DATA ON USAID OPERATIONS.

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